

SC AHEC

Mother, Daughter Roots Deep in Health Care Education

Kam Richardson, HPS Coordinator, Pee Dee AHEC

Margaret Cunningham and her daughter, Caroline McKillop, are continuing a family tradition in health care. Both are involved in the South Carolina AHEC system, and are touching the lives of South Carolina's citizens through education, patient care and community service.

Margaret has been the Nursing Education Coordinator at Pee Dee AHEC for five years. She holds a Masters Degree in Nursing from the University of South Carolina. Prior to working with AHEC, Margaret was an Instructor in Nursing Education at Florence-Darlington Technical College for almost 20 years.

Caroline, the oldest of Margaret's three daughters, is a third year medical student at the Medical University of South Carolina. This mother-daughter team was able to spend some quality time together recently while Caroline participated in the MUSC Family Medicine/Rural Clerkship. Caroline was able to live at home for the eight-week rotation, while working with CareSouth Carolina in Hartsville, South Carolina.

CareSouth has six locations in South Carolina and provides primary care and preventative health care for 20,000 medically underserved residents in the five surrounding counties. This allows students to be assigned to Family Medicine practice sites in rural South Carolina communities where they are allowed to engage in the clinical care of patients and participate in community-oriented activities. These activities include

home visits with selected patients and participation in community projects that address specific medical issues.

At each site, students work with interdisciplinary health care team providers to learn how health care is provided for

patients and communities in an interdisciplinary fashion. Through this clinical experience, students will be exposed to the population health perspective. This perspective encompasses the ability to assess the health needs of a specific population; implement and evaluate interventions to improve the health of a population; and provide care for individual patients in the context of the culture, health status, and

health needs of the populations which that patient is a member.

To Margaret and Caroline this meant not only quality learning time, but quality family time. "The Rural Clerkship was a wonderful experience, and being home made it that much more enjoyable", explains Caroline.

Both women view Caroline's participation in the Family Medicine/Rural Clerkship as a special experience. Caroline's perspective is rooted in a lifetime of first-hand accounts shared over the dinner table. She explains:

"Having a parent as a health care professional is probably the main



Margaret Cunningham and her daughter, Caroline serve the Pee Dee region of South Carolina

Continued on Page 3

SOUTH CAROLINA AHEC
Excellence In Health Care Through Education

O
N
N
E
C
T
S

|||||

Summer
2005



3rd Annual South Carolina Nursing Excellence Conference Magnetized Nurses & Administrators

The “South Carolina Nursing Excellence: Aspiring to Magnetism” conference was held on April 29, 2005 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia, South Carolina. The 225 nurses and nurse administrators who attended this conference focused on developing research and leadership among the nursing population through the pursuit of the Magnet designation for hospitals across the state.

The term “Magnet” was coined in 1982 to describe organizations that attracted and retained well-qualified nurses who provided quality patient care and experienced a high degree of professional and personal satisfaction through their practice. Today, the Magnet Nursing Services Recognition Program for Excellence in Nursing Services is the highest level of recognition that the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), an arm of the American Nurses Association, can award to organized nursing services in health care organizations.

Of the more than 5,000 health care facilities in the United States and internationally, only 102 have been awarded Magnet status as of February 14, 2005. Hospitals across South Carolina are in the process of applying for the designation and hope to become part of the select number who have achieved the Magnet designation.

Laurie Zone-Smith, a Registered Nurse and Magnet Coordinator at the Medical University of South Carolina, explained that, “recognition as a Magnet hospital means the hospital has achieved the ‘gold standard’ for excellence in nursing services, demonstrating high performance in the attraction and retention of high quality registered nurses”.

Magnet hospitals create a working environment that supports the staff nurse and superior nursing practice to achieve optimal patient outcomes. Magnet also creates a positive “halo” effect beyond nursing services that is transferred to all health care team members reinforcing collaborative working relationships with one goal—optimal patient care. Health care organizations that implement Magnet practices often have higher levels of patient satisfaction, better patient outcomes, higher levels of



Keynote speakers Maggie McClure and B.J. Hannon

nurse satisfaction, and significantly higher nurse-appraised quality of care.

Speakers for this conference included two nationally prominent nursing workforce experts. Dr. Margaret McClure's presentation touched on the benefits that can be derived from implementing new quality control measures. Dr. McClure's comments come from her experience as a Charter Member of the ANA Council of Nurse Researchers and a Charter Member of the ANA Council on Nursing Administration. She has also served as Senior Vice President for Nursing Programs at Mount Sinai New York University.

B.J. Hannon presented information from her experience as the Magnet Coordinator for the first hospital in Iowa to receive Magnet designation. Her experience and enthusiasm was contagious with those seeking innovative ways to bring all disciplines into the Magnet process.

This conference was sponsored by the South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium; South Carolina Hospital Association; South Carolina Organization of Nurse Executives; Medical University of South Carolina, Medical Center; Center for Nursing Leadership in the College of Nursing at the University of South Carolina; South Carolina Board of Nursing; and the SC Magnet Conference Planning Committee.

For information about Magnet designation, visit <http://nursingworld.org/ancc/magnet.html>.

2005 Annual Meeting

The South Carolina AHEC's Annual Meeting was held on April 4 & 5, 2005 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia.

Over 50 SC AHEC staff and board members gathered for two days to hear reports from our state and national representatives and collaborators, learn new skills to improve what we do, and reflect on the past year. As you can see, we learned (and laughed) a great deal!



Continued from Page 1

factor sparking my interest in health care. My mother has always been passionate about her work, teaching, and excellence in health care. Naturally, she talked about her work and ideas at home, and I became intrigued at a young age. It has been wonderful for me to have her as a resource as I have learned more about health care during my medical education. I do not know where I will practice medicine, but I hope to stay in the south for my residency. I will probably end up close to home for the long term."

Some of those same sentiments are echoed in Margaret's account of her daughter's experience. She explains:

"I am so very proud of my daughter for doing something that she loves and for finding a way to give something back

to other people. I have always told her that because she was blessed with many talents, she had a responsibility to use them wisely and to share them with others to make the world a better place. I loved having her stay with me while she did her rural health rotation and we enjoyed discussing the experiences she was having. Her husband is just finishing his first year of medical school, and although they have a difficult road, they are traveling it together. They are both wonderful people, smart, compassionate, and going into medicine for the right reason.... to help people in need."

Pee Dee AHEC is blessed by the experience Margaret brings to her role as Nursing Education Coordinator and looks forward to the completion of Caroline's studies. There will always be a home in the Pee Dee region for both mother and daughter.

Message from the Executive Director



David Garr, MD
Executive Director

On behalf of the South Carolina AHEC, I am pleased to present our 2005-2008 Strategic Plan. This document is the culmination of months of discussions and planning by many people within the AHEC organization. I believe it provides an accurate description of the road we plan to travel in the coming years.

The mission, vision, and values which appear at the beginning of the Strategic

Plan capture the essence of why the SC AHEC exists. The goals set forth in the document provide the road map for our daily work.

I am proud to be associated with the outstanding, dedicated group of professionals who work within the SC AHEC system. I believe this Strategic Plan will serve us and the citizens of our state well as we seek to support and expand the health professions workforce in South Carolina.

Vision:

To be a leader in building a collaborative educational system designed to optimize the health of South Carolinians.

Mission:

To achieve excellence in health care through recruitment, retention, and education.

Core Values:

Excellence, Integrity, Effectiveness, Professionalism, Service, Efficiency.

Goals:

Student Development & Diversity Program

1. Facilitate a coordinated, statewide approach for increasing the number and diversity of students entering the health professions pipeline in South Carolina.
2. Identify additional resources to support student programs in the state.
3. Develop an evidenced-based health care student recruitment and retention plan of activities.

Health Professions Students

1. Foster the development of health professionals who are clinically competent and responsive to the needs of communities.
2. Continually monitor and seek to respond to the need for health professionals in South Carolina.

Continuing Education

1. Enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies of the health care workforce in South Carolina to meet the health needs of our state's population.
2. Deliver continuing education programs in innovative ways to meet the changing needs of the health care workforce and our state's population.

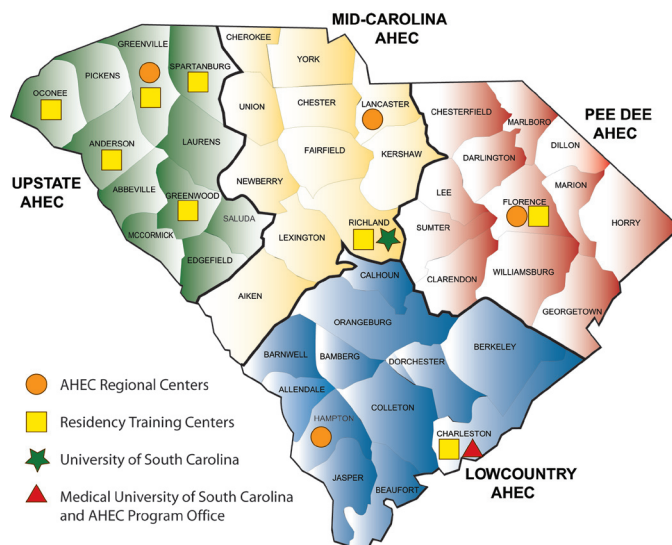
Recruitment & Retention

1. Increase the supply and improve the distribution of primary care providers and other health care professionals through recruitment and retention programs.

Undergraduate & Graduate Medical Education

1. Work collaboratively with South Carolina's medical schools to educate and retain medical students.
2. Facilitate the recruitment and retention of qualified, diversified medical students and residents to South Carolina.
3. Educate qualified, competent, community-responsive physicians.

South Carolina AHEC System



For additional information about the South Carolina AHEC system, visit our website at www.scahec.net.

Health Care Management of the Severely Obese Patient

Susan Sanders, MS, Continuing Education Coordinator, Lowcountry AHEC

Obesity is a “growing” problem in the United States and severely obese patients can pose special problems for health care providers. Recently, Lowcountry AHEC partnered with the Medical University of South Carolina to offer a two-day conference in Charleston on the management of severely obese patients.

The conference, *Healthcare Management of the Severely Obese Patient*, was held at the Charleston Riverview Hotel on February 3 and 4, 2005. Twelve presenters, 97 participants, and 18 exhibitors combined for this first-time event.

Presenters included physicians, dietitians, nurses, physical therapists, reimbursement specialists, “mobilization” specialists, and a gastric bypass patient/support group leader. The target audience was nurses, physical and occupational therapists, dietitians, program managers, and other interested health care professionals.

Sessions were presented on nutrition management, surgical intervention, inpatient room design, plastic surgery after weight loss, and the unique issues of the severely obese patient in the ICU.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, obesity is currently the second leading preventable

cause of death in the United States. Some health risks associated with obesity include hypertension, dyslipidemia, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, stroke, joint disease, sleep apnea, and cancer. There are also psychosocial consequences, including the impact on quality of life, psychiatric and psychological issues, and even prejudice and discrimination against obese people.

Movement and mobilization are a concern when caring for the severely obese patient. Often wheelchairs, hospital beds, and other equipment are not adequately sized to accommodate obese patients. The safety of health care staff is also important; several exhibitors displayed equipment to mobilize obese patients and minimize the risk of injury to staff.

Conference participants also realized that health care providers are not immune, despite being well informed, to obesity’s implications. Due to the multiple aspects of obesity management, participants urged planners to schedule another conference, possibly focusing on childhood obesity. Planners hope to make the conference an annual event.

For more information about continuing education programs offered by Lowcountry AHEC, contact 803-943-5052 or visit www.lcahec.com.

Lowcountry AHEC Launches Online Registration with PayPal

Mary Fennell, Education Program Assistant, Lowcountry AHEC

Lowcountry AHEC has answered the call of health care professionals by adding the convenience of online registration with credit card payment options to their website. Now health care professionals have the ability to obtain detailed course information and secure a spot for any continuing education course instantly.

Credit card payments are processed through a PayPal link that allows merchants to send and receive money online through PayPal’s secure network. All payment types are accepted. Anyone with an email address can use PayPal to send and receive money online.

PayPal provides convenience and contributes to the Continuing Education program’s efficiency in several ways. Sometimes larger agencies take weeks or months to process purchase requisitions

and mail payments for registrants; this can result in registration fee payments being received well after the course has ended. Now agencies have the ability to pay with a credit card which eliminates the time it takes to get a check written and secures early registration for their employees.

Online registration also allows the department to determine early on if registration goals are being met. Additionally, online registration is expected to result in less post-course billing, fewer course cancellations, and fewer calls requesting course specifics. Ultimately online registration is expected to increase due to the added convenience of credit cards.

Register online for a course being offered by Lowcountry AHEC at www.lcahec.com or call 803-943-5052 for more information.

Mid-Carolina AHEC Partners to Support Healthy Lifestyles for African American Women

Debbi Lewis, MA, RRT Multi-Disciplinary Education Coordinator, Mid-Carolina AHEC

You probably know that cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death for women in South Carolina and the United States. Many people are surprised to learn that more women die of cardiovascular disease than all cancers combined.



We often think of cardiovascular disease as a “man’s disease”. This is not the case. In fact, each year more women than men die of cardiovascular disease. Also, the number of men who die from cardiovascular disease began to decrease in the 1980s, but the number of women who die from this disease has shown little change over time.

Here in South Carolina, we are especially concerned about racial/ethnic disparities seen in cardiovascular disease. Significantly more African American women die from coronary heart disease and stroke than their Caucasian counterparts.

Because of the prevalence of this disease and the gender and racial/ethnic disparities that exist in our state, the USC Arnold School of Public Health, the Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center of Columbia, Family Health Centers, Inc in Orangeburg, and Mid-Carolina Area Health Education are partnering to support healthy living in African American women. The Heart Healthy and Ethnically Relevant (HHER) Lifestyle Program is a four-year study funded by the National Institutes of Health. Providers will be conducting randomized behavioral interventions designed to decrease cardiovascular disease risk in African American women ages 35 years and older.

The overall goal of the HHER Lifestyle Program is to learn how to work with health care settings to accomplish the goal of reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease in African American women ages 35 years and older who are under active and eating high fat diets by conducting randomized behavioral intervention.

Major **modifiable risk factors** for cardiovascular disease are:

- Tobacco use
- Physical inactivity
- Diabetes mellitus
- High blood cholesterol
- High blood pressure
- Overweight and obesity

Two primary goals of the HHER Lifestyle program are to increase physical activity and decrease the amount of dietary fat in African American women ages 35 years and older.

The goal to increase physical activity was chosen because:

- Physical activity reduces a woman’s risk of cardiovascular disease – the leading cause of death in the United States and in South Carolina.
- Most African American women don’t participate in the recommended level of physical activity (30 minutes a day, 5 days per week).
- Health care providers can encourage adults to become more physically active.
- Walking is the most popular form of physical activity because it is easy to do and enjoyable for most, requires no special training or equipment, and costs little money.



The goal to modify dietary habits was chosen because:

- A diet low in saturated fat and calories reduces a woman’s risk of cardiovascular disease by reducing body weight and improving blood cholesterol profiles.
- Rates of overweight and obesity are high in African American women and are greatly impacted by dietary habits.
- Health care providers can influence adults to eat healthier diets.

In South Carolina, like other states in the nation, rates of overweight and obesity are growing and the disparities between Caucasian and African American women follow national trends. For example, in the 2003 South Carolina Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), rates of overweight and obesity among African Americans were 34.5% and 37.8% relative to 35.4% and 20.4% in Caucasians.

With the HHER Lifestyle Project, primary care providers and nurses in the targeted community health centers will be trained to conduct physical activity and dietary counseling and goal setting that is patient-centered and matched to the patient's readiness for change. Continuing Education hours are available through Mid-Carolina AHEC for nurses completing the three independent study modules. An interactive CD ROM with video streaming demonstrates the counseling and goal setting used as the primary training tools. Primary care providers and nurses will also receive materials to help them implement the program more efficiently along with materials for their patients.



"We were happy to work with Mid-Carolina AHEC on this training and appreciate how open they were to using an interactive CD ROM for the training and continuing education credits" said Sara Wilcox, PhD, Co-Principal Investigator of the HHER Lifestyle Program. "We think that providing training through a CD ROM will allow nurses to learn the material and skills at a pace that is right for them. It also allows nurses to explore in more detail, through links and websites, information that is of great interest."

"I really enjoyed working as the Continuing Education Consultant for this project" explains Debbi Lewis, Multi-Disciplinary Education Coordinator for Mid-Carolina AHEC. "I believe the HHER Lifestyle Program Study is an excellent project that is effectively promoting a reduction in the risk of cardiovascular disease in African American women across South Carolina."

At this time, the training is available to nurses at the Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center of Columbia, and the Family Health Centers, Inc. in Orangeburg. For more information, please contact Debbi Lewis from Mid-Carolina AHEC at 803-408-0945 or Dr. Sara Wilcox with the Department of Exercise Science, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, at 803-777-8141. Information can also be found at <http://prevention.sph.sc.edu/tools/hher.htm>.

Photos Courtesy of HHER Lifestyle Program

Upstate Health Care Professionals Learn How to Prevent Domestic Abuse Against the Elderly

Ann Griffith, Continuing Education Coordinator
& Missy Jones, Program Assistant,
Upstate AHEC

South Carolina's senior citizen population has increased by 128% in the last 25 years. Unfortunately, the National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators National Center on Elder Abuse reports the number of domestic elder abuse reports investigated by Adult Protective Services across the nation has increased more than 150% in the last decade.

On March 24, 2005, Upstate Area Health Education Center and the SC Geriatric Education Center sponsored "Protecting Our Elders from Mistreatment and Abuse" at the Nisbet Education Center in Greenwood, SC.

This continuing education program highlighted elders as vulnerable individuals, examined forms of abuse, explored explosive situations and provided suggestions and techniques for intervention and prevention. In addition, participants learned how to recognize the signs and symptoms of elder abuse, identify vulnerable adults, and report and intervene in abusive situations.

Instructor Charlotte Thom, MSW, LISW, designed the class for health care practitioners who work with the elderly such as social workers, long term care and residential care administrators, licensed professional counselors, marriage and family therapists, psycho-education specialists, nurses, nursing assistants and others.

Charlotte Thom brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to the class. For more than 11 years, she has trained and educated health care professionals in long term care facilities as a private consultant in areas including elder care and services, staff and family intervention, elder rights and resources, elder abuse prevention, and difficult behavior management. In addition, Ms. Thom is associated with several long term care and social work professional organizations.

For more information about courses offered by Upstate AHEC, visit www.upstateahec.org.

South Carolina AHEC Names 2004 & 2005 Ambassadors of the Year

(Due to logistical issues, both years were awarded at the 2005 SC AHEC Annual Meeting.)

The purpose of the South Carolina AHEC Ambassador Award is to recognize a non Graduate Medical Education member of the South Carolina AHEC system who has made a major contribution to the enhancement of South Carolina AHEC by exhibiting excellence in the following categories:

A – Attitude

H – Helpfulness

E – Empowerment

C – Creativity

Gail Weaver, 2004 Ambassador of the Year



Gail Weaver displays her award as the 2004 SC AHEC Ambassador of the Year

Gail Weaver is the Center Director for Pee Dee AHEC. As a leader in health care education for the past 26 years, Gail is readily valued in the medical community as reflected in the support she receives from colleagues.

Gail's *attitude* is always positive in her interaction with colleagues and regional constituents. She handles pressure

with grace and ease, and has a contagious smile. Her *helpfulness* is evident in the way she assisted employees in need during personal emergency or injury, or when she comforted the family of a medical student who was involved in a fatal automobile accident while on a rotation in the Pee Dee region. She *empowers* her employees from the moment they are hired to excel as professionals and make decisions that allow them to grow within their areas of responsibility. Gail gives trust to her staff, and it is returned.

Lastly, she fosters an atmosphere of *creativity* within her center. This can be seen in the way her staff designs and implements educational programs. She is also a leader in creatively meeting the educational needs of the health care facilities and professionals in her region by leveraging resources and bringing in new partners. Gail has also been recognized for her diligent promotion of the work being done at the Family Medicine Residency Training Program at McLeod. In all these areas, Gail Weaver excels and demonstrates the qualities SC AHEC values.

Ann Graef, 2005 Ambassador of the Year

Ann Graef is a Training Center Program Assistant at Lowcountry AHEC. For almost 25 years, Ann has contributed to the enhancement of the SC AHEC by promoting their mission and vision in the counties served by Lowcountry AHEC.

She exhibits the characteristics of the AHEC acronym making her the perfect candidate for this award. Ann has a wonderful *attitude*. She is always positive, never shirking a task no matter how difficult, until it is completed successfully. She is always *helpful* to co-workers and very courteous to anyone that calls for help on the phone. She is a definite



Ann Graef (middle), displays her award as the 2005 Ambassador of the Year

collaborator and team player. She needs little supervision, sensing when tasks need to be done and finishing them without ever being asked. She *empowers* others to make a difference, whether by encouraging her co-workers or helping someone become more skilled on the computers. As for *creativity*, Ann has the ability to make things interesting, stream-lined, and more efficient. She has great organizational skills.

After 25 years at Lowcountry AHEC, Ann Graef can answer anything. In fact, one of her co-workers was so appreciative that she coined the phrase "Ann Answers Anything" or shortened AAA. She is a true asset to Lowcountry AHEC and embodies the tenets of the SC AHEC Ambassador Award.

Study Skills for Success

Tavy Smalls, SDDP Coordinator, Lowcountry AHEC

Middle and High School students understand that a person's study skills and habits have a lot to do with their success in college. Even though many members of the SC AHEC Student Development and Diversity Program are exceptional, often times they are the first to admit that they have used faulty study methods that did not always achieve the desired results. During a workshop at the recent Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) conference in Charleston, SDDP Coordinators shared tips that may help students better their study methods. Try these study skills and there will be no limit to the success you can achieve.

1. Make a schedule of times and duration of studying. A student can write out a plan several days or weeks in advance to better utilize the time given.
2. Keep up with assignments. The older a student gets, the more obligations and responsibilities they will have. Therefore, keeping things written down is a good method to use to keep from overloading yourself.
3. ALWAYS DO HOMEWORK. We remember things best if we review them soon after we learn them initially. Therefore, don't see homework as busy work. Homework should be seen as a chance to fully grasp the information.
4. Stay away from distractions. If you plan on studying, find a quiet place away from distractions. Ignore phone calls, unexpected friends stopping by, and limit the noise in the area where you plan to study or work.
5. Know yourself. Know how much time you need to study, what your goal for each study session is, and keep your mind-set positive in order to get the task at hand done.



Students Represent Upstate

Selena Henderson, SDDP Coordinator and Missy Jones, Program Assistant, Upstate AHEC

The Student Development & Diversity Program (SDDP) of Upstate AHEC sponsored three Spartanburg students to attend the Association of Minority Health Profession Schools 19th Annual Symposium on Careers in Biomedical Sciences. The Symposium was held on March 23-25, 2005, at Charles R. Drew University in Anaheim, California.

Students from all across the United States attended the symposium, which is designed to foster learning about and commitment to professions in medicine, science and research among minority high school and college students.

Leaders in medicine, research and health services collaborated to organize and facilitate the Biomedical Symposium. Participants had the opportunity to interact with and hear from well-known figures in the world of science, medicine and education. Ronny B. Lancaster, Senior Vice President of Morehouse School of Medicine and the President of the Minority Health Professions Foundation, kicked off the Symposium and welcomed the students to the event. Notable speakers included Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald of the 37th Congressional District of California, and Dr. Richard H. Carmona, Surgeon General of the United States.

SDDP Coordinator Selena Henderson accompanied Jasmine Brannon of Boiling Springs High School, Aasha Foster of Dorman High School, and Toshiba McAbee of Byrnes High School. An Additional 15

South Carolina students were accompanied by SDDP Coordinators Angel Clark from the Mid-Carolina AHEC and Tavy Smalls from the Lowcountry AHEC.



Health Professional Career Profile

Health Care Administrators

Health care administrators, also known as health care executives, have the responsibility of improving the health of their communities. The health care administrator's role is diverse. Duties of an administrator include the integration of health care delivery into their community, advancement of technology for their patients, to be a catalyst for collaboration between their organization, physicians, businesses, insurers and others that desire to improve health. Other duties include disease prevention and wellness promotion in their community. The health care administrator is responsible for controlling costs by using good planning and budget development. The health care administrator achieves these goals through local, state and federal agencies and governing boards.

Areas of Specialization

- Consultant • Director, Mental Health Services • Facilities Administrator • Finance • Health Program Analyst • Home Health Agency Director • Hospital Administrator • Information Systems Administrator • Managed Care (HMO/PPO) • Materials Management • Medical Practice Administrator • Public Health Administrator

Places of Employment

- Clinics • Continuous Care Retirement Centers • Consulting Firms • Health Care Associations • Hospices • Hospitals • Mental Health Organizations • Nursing homes • Public Health Departments • Universities

Educational Preparation

Students interested in becoming health care administrators should take general college preparatory courses in high school including: three courses in math including

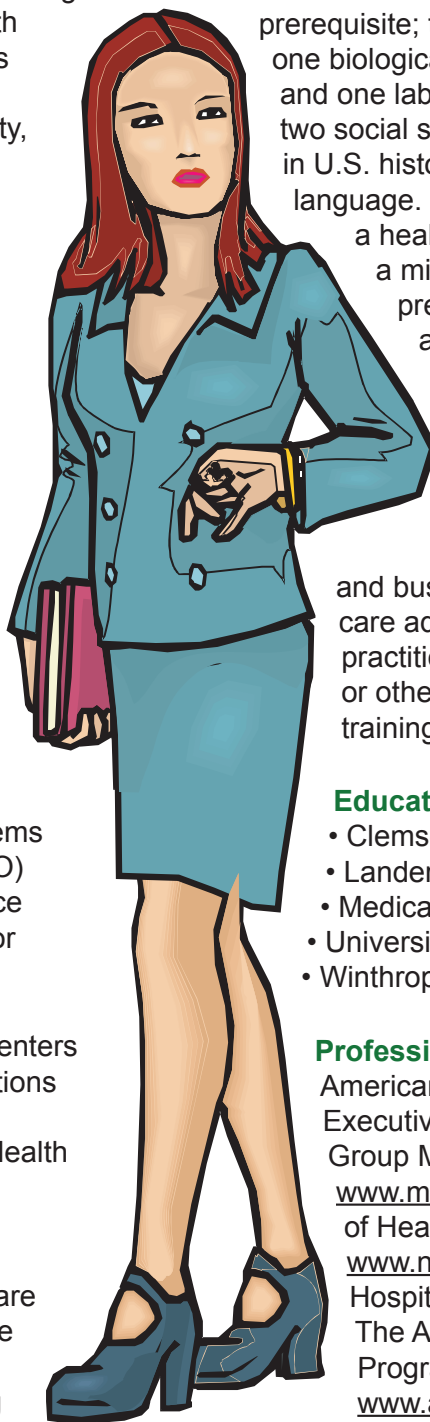
Algebra I, Algebra II and geometry or a higher level math course for which Algebra II is a prerequisite; three science courses including one biological science, one physical science and one lab course; four English courses; two social studies courses including one in U.S. history; and two years of foreign language. Students interested in becoming a health care administrator must earn a minimum of a bachelor's degree, preferably in business, health policy and administration or a related field. Most employers require a graduate degree in health care, hospital or business administration. Studies cover financial management, policy development, administrative and business principles. Some health care administrators are also health care practitioners such as physicians, nurses or others who have received additional training or experience.

Educational Programs

- Clemson University, Clemson
- Lander University, Greenwood
- Medical University of SC, Charleston
- University of South Carolina, Columbia
- Winthrop University, Rock Hill

Professional Organizations

American College of Healthcare Executives, www.ache.org • Medical Group Management Association, www.mgma.com • National Association of Health Services Executives, www.nahse.org • South Carolina Hospital Association, www.scha.org • The Association of University Programs in Health Administration, www.aupha.org



Becoming a Health Administrator: Deronda Corbin, in Her Own Words

My name is Deronda Corbin and I am a Health Care Administrator at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC).

My journey to the career I have today began when I was just 15. As a sophomore at Burke High School in Charleston, SC, I was in the Guidance Office every week looking for opportunity and direction. I had thought about a career in medicine, but I thought you had to be a doctor, nurse, or a surgeon. I never knew about allied health careers that include health administrators, program coordinators, physician assistants, and lab technicians.

All that changed when I joined the SC AHEC Student Development & Diversity Program Association of Future Health Professionals (known then as the Health Careers Club). The AHEC program allowed me to intern with MUSC and receive hands-on experience in a health care setting. That experience taught me the importance of networking. Regardless of the title or the position, all practitioners have knowledge to share. During my internship, a unit secretary provided a great deal of guidance that I have used towards my success.

During the summer programs, we had several sessions that gave us the total picture about pursuing a successful career in a variety of health related fields. We had sessions with students in undergraduate school who told us about the college experience and what to expect. We participated in interviewing sessions to sharpen our skills and we performed a lot of group exercises to develop teamwork skills.

The session that had the most impact was when we literally gave back to the community what we were taught. We actually took blood pressure readings at a health fair held at the former Omni Hotel. We were even interviewed by a reporter for Channel 5!

Being a member of the Association of Future Health Professionals allowed me to gain

experience, network and build relationships that will last a lifetime! Not only was I introduced to a variety of health careers, but I was also introduced to individuals within MUSC that encouraged me to seek a career in health care. Much of my success is due to the encouragement of Dr. Sabra Slaughter, who challenged me to attain higher heights and not settle for less.

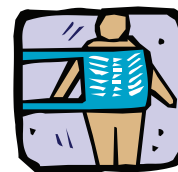


After completing the programs and meeting students, faculty and staff in health care, I knew I had made my decision to seek a career in health care. I then attended Winthrop University, where I obtained a bachelor's degree in Health Administration and later a Master's degree in Business Administration from Webster University. My experiences through the AHEC program gave me insight, guided my drive and provided me with marketable skills.

Since returning to Charleston, one of my goals has been to introduce high school students to the AHEC program so they too can take advantage of the opportunities I was afforded. As Coordinator for the Mentor Program at the Geriatric Education Center at MUSC, I work with medical students so they can better work with geriatric patients. Although I am not on the front line of health care, my position allows me to help people by providing a very important service.

I would advise any student pursuing a career in health care to know what you want in life and never settle for what is simply in front of your eyes. There is so much more out there for you. Surround yourself with positive, like-minded individuals that can encourage and motivate you.

- Deronda Corbin, Health Administrator



NeuroBlast!

Welcome to **NeuroBlast!** This edition is designed to assist the reader in amassing an Ivy League vocabulary. Test your knowledge! Match the vocabulary word with its proper definition. Once you've mastered this list, test your friends and expand your vocabulary by learning the meaning of a new word each week. The challenge is yours! Answers can be found at **WWW.SCAHEC.NET**.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Interrogative (Adjective) | A. The death of part of the body |
| 2. Jaundice (Noun) | B. A fatty preparation with a butter-like consistency in which a medicinal substance exists |
| 3. Latent (Adjective) | C. Severely painful or acute to the spirit |
| 4. Necrosis (Noun) | D. That which nourishes |
| 5. Nutriment (Noun) | E. A declaration or memorandum of agreement less solemn and formal than a treaty |
| 6. Ointment (Noun) | F. Having the nature or form of a question |
| 7. Ossify (Verb) | G. Oily |
| 8. Protocol (Noun) | H. Dormant |
| 9. Unctuous (Adjective) | I. A morbid condition, due to obstructed excretion of bile or characterized by yellowing of the skin |
| 10. Voluble (Adjective) | J. Having great fluency in speaking |

Preceptor Training Course Improves Clinical Teaching

Cynthia Gilster, HPS Coordinator and Missy Jones, Program Assistant, Upstate AHEC

Over two days in February and March 2005, Upstate AHEC's Health Professions Student program facilitated "Preceptor Education: A Guide to Teaching in Your Practice" at the Oconee Memorial Hospital in Seneca. This course was designed to improve the teaching techniques of family physicians who teach health professions students in their practices.

Preceptors were provided updated information on teaching techniques and medical student curricula. They learned skills essential to successful clinical teaching, including organization and planning, observation, assessment, teaching, feedback and evaluation. Attendees received CME credit from the American Association of Family Physicians.

Course instructors included Donna Kern, MD, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina, and Kenneth Becker, MD of the Woodland/Mays Family Practice in Seneca.

This program is a unique service for physicians. One participant stated, "The information presented here will improve my student's residency experience because I learned methods to impart feedback more constructively".

For more information about preceptor services and education, contact Upstate AHEC at 864-349-1160 or visit www.upstateahec.org.



Student Development and Diversity Program Honored for Contributions to the Health Status Improvement of Minority Populations

More than 250 people recently attended the 2005 Minority Health Issues Conference co-sponsored by the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control in collaboration with various public and private agencies and organizations. The conference's theme, *South Carolina Leadership Summit on Eliminating Health Disparities: Prospects for Change* set the stage for bringing together state, local and community leaders and other stakeholders to collaborate and coordinate health disparity efforts. The conference was held April 17-19, 2005 in Columbia, South Carolina and coincided with National Minority Health Month.

One of the highlights of the conference was the Second Annual Recognition Awards Luncheon to recognize outstanding individuals, groups and organizations that contributed significantly to the promotion of minority health issues, improvement of the health status of minority populations and the elimination of health disparities in South Carolina. The awards focused on community-based efforts in the areas of cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, immunizations, infant mortality, sickle cell anemia and other health issues that disproportionately affect minorities. Nominations for the awards were solicited statewide and a committee of internal and external partners selected the honorees.

The South Carolina AHEC Student Development and Diversity Program was selected as an honoree

in the Minority Health Professions Development category which recognized an organization or group that has implemented strategies to increase the representation of minorities in the health professions. Angelica Williams, director of the Student Development and Diversity Program, was also nominated for this award.

"I feel it was a tremendous honor for the Student Development and Diversity Program to be recognized by our peers," states Ms. Williams.

Next up for the Student Development and Diversity Program are two, week-long summer programs. The Academy of Pre-Nursing will bring graduating high school seniors and undergraduate students interested in nursing to the Medical University of South Carolina for an intensive skill building session. The 2005 SC AHEC Future Health Professionals Summer Institute will be held at South Carolina State University. This annual Institute provides an opportunity for high school and undergraduate students to gain insight into health careers. Also emphasized are the academic and personal development of the participants.



Paula Jones and Angelica Williams display the award from SC DHEC.

Resident's Yard Sale Benefits the Anderson Free Clinic

Darlene Norton, Residency Coordinator, AnMed Family Medicine

The Family Medicine Residents at AnMed Health in Anderson not only donate their time and medical skills for the patients of the Anderson Free Clinic, they recently showed how much they care by putting together a community yard sale on April 30, 2005, that benefited the clinic.

Residents donated items to sell, collected donations from the community and posted flyers around town. They came in shifts to work the tables and help deliver some of the purchases.

Ms. Maureen Sartini, Executive Director of the

Anderson Free Clinic stated, "The residents have always been so supportive of the Free Clinic. We were excited and grateful to have them work so hard to support us financially. This money will be put to use toward medications for our indigent patients".

Even though the weather turned cold, rainy and windy, the yard sale raised around \$500. "We would like to repeat the effort later in the spring", explains Dr. Clemow, Chief Resident.

For information about the family medicine residency program in Anderson, visit www.anmedfp.com.

Beaufort/Jasper/Hampton Comprehensive Health Services, Inc., 2005 Clinical Teaching Site of the Year

Beaufort/Jasper/Hampton Comprehensive Health Services, Inc. (BJHCHS) based in Chelsea, South Carolina has been selected as the South Carolina AHEC 2005 Clinical Teaching Site of the Year. The site is selected based on the following criteria: being an active interdisciplinary clinical teaching site, positive feedback on evaluations completed by students, and letters of nomination from coordinators and students. Initially established to provide health care in rural South Carolina, BJHCHS is perfectly aligned with the SC AHEC's mission and focus on primary care.

In remaining responsive to the ever-changing health care needs of the Lowcountry Community, BJHCHS has expanded its facilities, programs, and services while never losing sight of its mission-*to provide quality, accessible, and comprehensive health care services to the South Carolina Low Country Community*. The experiences and learning opportunities students receive during their placement at any of the eight sites of BJHCHS have received high praise for both preceptors and site. Many of the students enter a rotation at the site without previously being experienced with "rural life" and this exposure on a daily basis helps some return to rural communities after graduation. BJHCHS's dedication to student clinical education and support of students rotating through their practice is the reason they are recognized as Site of the Year.

This year the review committee was impressed by the excellent evaluations completed on behalf of all those at BJHCHS. As one student said, "Each physician



AHEC staff present the Award to
Dr. Roland Gardner

graciously agreed to teach students during their busy day. They had the patience, enthusiasm, and motivation to actively teach me and impart their wonderful 'pearls of wisdom' that I use today in my own practice."

Padgett, 2005 Preceptor of the Year

R. Dale Padgett, MD has been selected as the South Carolina AHEC 2005 Preceptor of the Year. The purpose of this award is to bring recognition to an outstanding community-based preceptor serving South Carolina health professions students. Each year practitioners volunteer to provide clinical education to students from various health professions. It is their dedication to the education of the next generation of health professionals that is honored with this award.

Dr. Padgett has devoted much of his practice to serving the underserved minority populations in Bamberg and Orangeburg. He is a caring man who puts patients at ease and lets them know he is on their side. He does not just treat symptoms,

and he makes sure each patient has as much time as they need in his practice.



AHEC staff present the Award to
Dr. Dale Padgett

This year the review committee was impressed by the excellent evaluations

completed on behalf of Dr. Padgett. As one student said, "All in all, I could not imagine a better place to work as a third year medical student. Dr. Padgett is the type of doctor I strive to become".

Another stated, "I can honestly say the two months I spent in Bamberg were as important to my medical education as any time period or experience I have encountered thus far. I cannot express enough how much I respect Dr. Padgett and his staff for the work they do, and how thankful I am to have had the opportunity to learn from all their years of experience".

Dr. Padgett was also recognized in November, 2004 as the first recipient of the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians "Student Educator of Year" award.

These awards were given at the SC AHEC Annual Meeting awards luncheon on April 5, 2005.

“Exercise Tests Region’s Ability to Respond to Bioterrorism Events”

Barbara Burden, Bioterrorism Education Coordinator, Lowcountry AHEC and Ragan DuBose, South Carolina AHEC

The voices at the table represented law enforcement, hospital administrators and public health officials from a four county region of South Carolina’s Lowcountry. The scenario was fictional, but possible. What happens if a bioterrorism event occurs at a popular summer festival in Hampton County?

This scenario was explored through a bioterrorism table-top exercise, held Tuesday, April 12, 2005 in Varnville, South Carolina. The exercise was co-sponsored by the Academy of Public Health Emergency Preparedness and the Lowcountry Area Health Education Center (AHEC).

The table-top exercise began with participants listening to a scenario where patients with similar symptoms started arriving at hospitals in Colleton, Jasper, Hampton and Beaufort counties. At first it appeared the patients had a food borne illness, but as the scenario played out, it became evident that a more sinister diagnosis was emerging. Botulism introduced intentionally through food served at the festival was affecting young and old, families and individuals alike. How well would facilities and services already at full capacity because of festival related events meet the call for more personnel and resources to treat the ill and calm the fears of the “worried well”?

“We can never be too prepared for some intentional outbreak,” states Nick Davidson, Low Country District Director of Public Health Preparedness for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC).

“But this can also be a great help to us in our day-to-day disease investigation,” explains Davidson. “If we can coordinate responses in a relaxed setting, we can respond better to both intentional and unintentional events.”

In this controlled exercise, the results were positive. The representatives of the region already communicate well in the law enforcement and public health arenas and they understand the role of federal and state agencies in responding to local public health emergencies. Regional participants included Colleton Medical

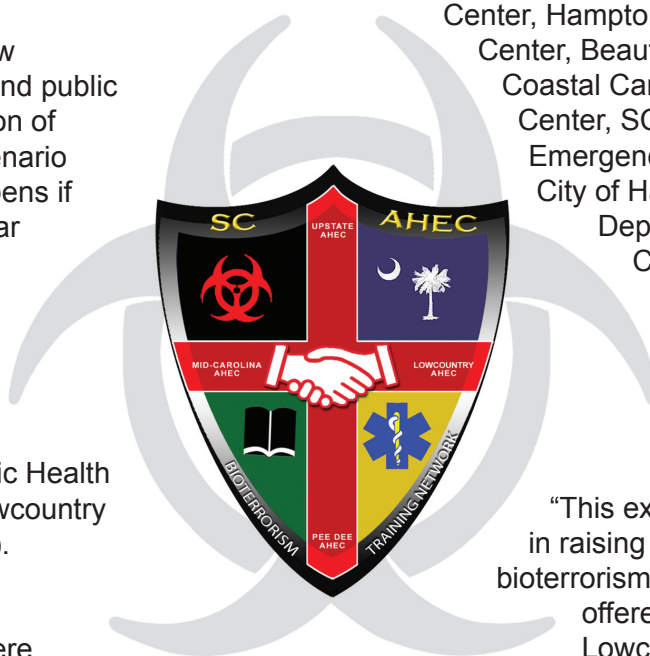
Center, Hampton Regional Medical Center, Beaufort Naval Hospital, Coastal Carolina Medical Center, SC DHEC Office of Emergency Preparedness, City of Hampton Police Department, Colleton County Fire and Rescue, Colleton County Sheriff’s Office, and the Colleton County Coroner’s Office.

“This exercise succeeded in raising the awareness of bioterrorism training courses offered in the region by Lowcountry AHEC and brought together various

organizations to network and establish clearer communication,” explains Gail Sartain, Infection Control Practitioner and Education Coordinator for Colleton Medical Center. “It was a good fit”.

Challenges faced by the participants included where to transport infected patients for advanced care, how to communicate more effectively between the regional medical centers, and the role local law enforcement officials would play in collecting evidence and apprehending a domestic terrorist.

The Academy for Public Health Emergency Preparedness is coordinated by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and the University of South Carolina Center for Public Health Preparedness. The goal of the Academy is to build local community capacity to respond to acts of terrorism through the development, implementation and evaluation of tabletop exercises and the development of relationships and partnerships between the agencies involved. Academy activities are funded through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Continued Over -

"Our new relationships turned out to be good matches and our coming together resulted in more success than any one entity could achieve on its own", states Barbara Burden, Lowcountry AHEC's Bioterrorism Education Coordinator.

Diane Kennedy, Lowcountry Center Director reflects, "We were happy to be part of the Academy for Public Health Emergency Preparedness tabletop exercise. When we were asked to collaborate on this project we jumped at the chance. This tabletop exercise has the potential to benefit our communities in countless ways."

South Carolina AHEC receives grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration for the Bioterrorism Training and Public Health Emergencies Network, of which Lowcountry AHEC is a member. This Network addresses the training needs of practicing health care professionals for the recognition of, and response to, bioterrorism and public health emergencies. For additional information about this tabletop exercise, contact Barbara Burden at 803-943-5052.



Participants discuss how they would handle an intentional disease outbreak during a popular summer festival.

Dr. Schmidt Shares His "Bug Knowledge" with Network

If you need to know what's happening with bird flu in Asia and unsecured biological labs in Western Europe, who are you going to call? The Bioterrorism Training Network depends on Michael Schmidt, PhD, to answer those tough questions and provide valuable insight into what South Carolina needs to know to be prepared in the event of a natural or man-made public health emergency.

Dr. Schmidt joined the Medical University of South Carolina in April of 1989 after an NCI post-doctoral training fellowship at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He is presently Professor and Vice Chairman of the College of Medicine, Department of Microbiology and Immunology. His research interests are in bacterial protein export, molecular pathogenesis, biodefense preparedness, biofilm development and succession, and environmental microbiology.

What does that mean? Well, when he is not in the lab, giving lectures, or speaking at national and international conferences, Dr. Schmidt is working with the Bioterrorism Training Network to make sure health professionals recognize the signs of a biological event. He is also collaborating with Dr. Connie Best to develop a white paper on the best practices required

for community practitioners in the event that their services are required in response to a terrorist or mass casualty event.

Dr. Schmidt has published widely and is known internationally as a bioterrorism expert. He has an extensive background in biological agents and their use by bioterrorists. As a member of the Bioterrorism Training Network Core Team, Dr. Schmidt participates in the development of on-line courses; collaborates with Columbia University in the development of student surveys; presents Bioterrorism programs across the state and in the four AHEC regions; and, represents the Network at national meetings.



Dr. Schmidt is our microbiology expert.

Dr. Schmidt is a true professional whose experience is invaluable. The best way to describe what he brings to the team is, "If a little knowledge is good, a little 'bug knowledge' is just downright scary".

Training for the Unthinkable Can Have Unexpected Results

Beth Kennedy, Associate Program Director for Education & BT Project Director, SC AHEC

Last month Kimberly Fine, Pee Dee Bioterrorism Training Coordinator, was asked to provide a BT class for the St. James Lutheran Church Parish Nurse Ministry in Sumter, SC. As usual, Kimberly made all the arrangements and when she arrived at the church, there were 35 participants ready to be trained. However, only six were nurses and one was a paramedic. Everyone else was a lay member of the church.

Quickly, Kimberly thought about how she might provide content of value to these lay members. After her prepared talk, she began to tell them about their potential role in a health emergency.

"I told them they had a beautiful fellowship hall", Kimberly explains. "It was really large and had a kitchen off to the side. I told the ladies I could see them in the kitchen preparing coffee and heating up soup to serve to the health care providers who came to volunteer their services. I could see the men moving tables and chairs making room for the health care providers to sleep on the floor so they could get some rest after long shifts. I told them how they could decontaminate themselves if covered with a powder from an explosion by just removing their clothing and they could wash it with Dawn dishwashing liquid. I spoke about calling 911 and I talked about several other things such as what the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) does in an emergency, who to listen to on TV for reports of what to do, and I instructed them to contact their local Red Cross to be trained ahead of time if they wanted to volunteer."

Then the unexpected happened. The church ladies began to talk about buying cots so health care professionals could have some place to rest if the church were to become an emergency shelter. Now the members are contacting the EOC to see if they can be part of their community's emergency plan.

Although no one wants the "unthinkable" to occur, it can be said that the St. James Lutheran Church in Sumter will be prepared to assist their community regardless of whether the event is planned, or unexpected.

"C.J." to the Rescue

Barbara Burden, BT Coordinator, Lowcountry AHEC

Even as a small child, Christopher (C.J.) Johnson, Bioterrorism Trainer from Lowcountry AHEC, always enjoyed being "the teacher" and rescuer.

"I think my love of teaching and the desire to help people are the main reasons I have thoroughly enjoyed giving the Bioterrorism presentations", C.J. states. "It has allowed me the opportunity to share some very important material with the people that will need it the most in case of the unthinkable".



C.J. all suited-up

C.J. has made outstanding contributions to the success of the SC AHEC Bioterrorism and Public Health Emergencies Training Network Project. When he was first introduced to the bioterrorism training modules, he began talking about how the material could be brought to life in the classroom. C.J. saw beyond the words to the feelings that would emerge from the graphic and sobering pictures of a crisis. His style of teaching casts a spell on the participants and at more than one program he has been asked to not stop for a break and please continue because of the intense interest of the participants.

He is currently employed as Crew Chief and Special Operations Paramedic for Dorchester County EMS. He is an EMT Instructor, Weapons of Mass Destruction Specialist, Incident Response to Terrorist Bombing Instructor, Advanced Tactical Management of WMD Instructor, Fire Instructor I, Technical Rescue Instructor, Helicopter Rescue Operations Instructor, Trench Rescue Instructor, Maritime Rescue Instructor, Swiftwater/Flood Rescue Technician, and a Rescue Scuba Diver.

C.J. is quiet and very modest. When he receives compliments, he smiles and states, "it is the message that is important and not the messenger".

He continues to serve South Carolina through training programs he teaches for the BT Network, which is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration. C.J.'s positive attitude and willingness to go the extra mile are appreciated by all.

Nurse Aide Training Workshop Continues Educating the Educators

The 2nd Annual Nurse Aide Training Coordinators and Instructors Workshop was held on April 6, 2005 at the Columbia Convention Center. Over 120 participants gathered to learn, share ideas, and network. Attendees included coordinators and instructors from nurse aide training programs across South Carolina who are responsible for training the next generation of nurse aides.

The theme of this year's workshop was, "Bringing the Pieces Together" and program topics included: "Everything I Learned, I Learned in Long Term Care"; "Creative Problem Solving for Those with Dementia"; and "Dying in a Caring Community".

The South Carolina AHEC has helped sponsor statewide nurse aide education programs for several years. Additional sponsors included: The South Carolina Primary Health Care Association, The South Carolina Association of Non-Profit Homes for the Aging, Carolina Medical Review, Office for the Study of Aging at USC, South Carolina Board

of Nursing; South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Aiken Technical College, and the South Carolina Department of Education.



This year's program was a resounding success in part because of the workshop sponsors who donated materials and presented information at booths. They included: Elsevier, Inc.; Hartman Publishing; Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; NACES Plus Foundation, Inc.; Pearson Prentice Hall; Promissor, Inc.; and Thomson/Delmar Learning.

For more information about nurse aide training programs in South Carolina, contact Debbie Miller at millerdb@dhhs.state.sc.us.

SC AHEC Residents' Annual Conference Held at Hickory Knob *Becky Seignious, Director of Recruitment and Retention Programs, SC AHEC*

On May 13-14, 2005, the SC AHEC Residents' Annual Conference was held at Hickory Knob State Park, McCormick, SC. Residents from AHEC-affiliated residency programs were invited to participate. A total of 54 residents attended the two-day conference. This annual event was sponsored by the South Carolina AHEC Family Medicine Residency Directors.

The event was kicked off with the SC Family Medicine Residents' Association holding their annual meeting on Friday morning. On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, The Hickory Knob Symposium provided an opportunity for residents to present brief 10-minute scholarly presentations. A total of 24 presentations were categorized into the following areas: basic research, case reports with clinical reviews, and/or quality

improvement projects. An Awards Luncheon was held after the Hickory Knob Symposium and gifts were presented to the following winners of the Research Symposium: Ann Rodden and Priscilla Holtzclaw.

The meeting concluded Saturday with a Chief Residents' Seminar designed for physicians who will be chief residents during the 2005-06 academic year. The session was conducted by Franklin Medio, Ph.D., Associate Dean for

Graduate Medical Education at MUSC, and included workshops on "Being an Effective Chief Resident" and "Becoming an Effective Clinical Teacher".

If you have questions about this event, contact Becky Seignious at 843-792-4439 or seignior@musc.edu.



Residents listen to presentations from their peers.

Narcotics Intervention Priority for Seneca Doctor

Dr. Roshan Mathew, a Resident at Seneca Lakes Family Medicine Residency Program, recently visited the Fred P. Hamilton Career Center to address narcotic use in the county by juveniles. His presentation was entitled, "What They Never Will Tell You".

The Hamilton Career Center is part of the Oconee County School System and provides vocational/technical training to high school students. The mission of the Center is to work in partnership with home and community to enable students to become socially responsible citizens and lifelong learners in a global society.

Dr. Mathew showed the juvenile attendees pictures of complications from drug use and dependence. The pictures were of addicts with infections and self mutilations from drug-induced frenzies. He also

showed local media reports of counter-narcotics activity in their neighborhoods and displayed a listing of sex offenders with pictures. Dr. Mathew explained that some of the adults had seduced children with narcotics and alcohol to manipulate them. A couple of the attendees were on parole for distribution and Dr. Mathew spoke directly to them with a warning not to go down this path and not to become a victim.

"It was the other kids I wanted to shield them from", explains Dr. Mathew.

Deterrence and prevention programs like these are just some of the programs residents at Seneca Lakes participate in to improve the quality of health in their communities. For more information about the Seneca Family Medicine Residency Program, visit www.senecalakes.com.

Upcoming SC AHEC Events

May 26-28, 2005

Biological Attacks...Are We Ready?, Hyatt Regency, Greenville, SC

Sponsored by: Upstate AHEC & SC AHEC

Overview: This three-day conference is specifically designed for emergency medical personnel and other allied health professionals focusing on statewide preparedness for biological emergencies.

For more information: Call 864-349-1160.

May 31-June 3, 2005

Academy of Pre-Nursing, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

Overview: The Academy will bring high school and undergraduate students interested in nursing to MUSC for an intensive skills-building session.

For more information: Call 843-792-4431.

June 7-10, 2005

Future Health Professionals Summer Institute, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC

Overview: This annual Institute provides an opportunity for high school and undergraduate students to gain insight into health careers.

For more information: Call 843-792-4431.

July 15-16, 2005

How to Get Through A Bad Day: SC Physician Bioterrorism Preparedness Program, Charleston Harbor Resort & Marina, Mount Pleasant, SC

Overview: Examples of recent incidents will be presented by experts who responded to the 9/11 and Madrid bombings, as well as the Graniteville, SC chlorine train derailment. Important discussions on how to recognize, respond and report public health emergencies will prepare physicians for their clinical and community roles.

Registration information: Visit www.scahec.net.

August 12, 2005

SC Nurses Bioterrorism Preparedness Conference, Francis Marion University, Florence, SC
Registration information: Visit www.scahec.net.

August 13, 2005

Family Medicine Interest Day & Practice Opportunities Fair, Embassy Suites, Columbia, SC
For more Information: Contact Becky Seignious at 843-792-4431 or seignior@musc.edu.

August 27, 2005

SC Pharmacists Bioterrorism Preparedness Conference, Columbia, SC
Registration information: Visit www.scahec.net.



David R. Garr, MD

EDITOR

|||||

SOUTH CAROLINA AHEC
Medical University of South Carolina
19 Hagood Avenue, Suite 802
PO Box 250814
Charleston, SC 29425

Phone: 843.792.4431
Fax: 843.792.4430

www.scahec.net

[illegible]

The editorial staff of “SC AHEC Connects” welcomes the submission of articles, success stories, upcoming events and news for the Fall Edition.

Please forward information, articles and photos to
Ragan DuBose at duboser@musc.edu.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS
August 1, 2005!

SOUTH CAROLINA AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CONSORTIUM
Excellence in Health Care Through Education